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April 21, 2004

BY HAND

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications
and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company; EC 03-3

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

Enclosed, please find Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company's responses to the Department's Fourth Set of Data Requests in Docket EC 03-3. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Meabh Purcell

MP:rtm

Enclosures

cc: Caroline M. Bulger, Hearing Officer (1 copy)
Miguel Maravi (4 copies)
Robert Sydney, General Counsel, DOER (1 copy)
Wilner Borgella, Assistant Attorney General (1 copy)
Ted Bohlen, Assistant Attorney General (1 copy)
Paul Muzyka, PGM Plastics (1 copy)
Michael Lanava, Executive Director (1 copy)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil Docket No: EC 03-3 Department's Fourth Set of Document and Information Requests

Request No. DTE-FGE-4-1

What customers are currently served on circuit 40W39? Are any additional customers projected to be served on this circuit in the next five years?

Response:

Circuit 40W39 serves mostly small commercial and industrial customers in the southeast corner of Unitil's territory. There is a small pocket of residential customers served as well. Unitil does not have any knowledge of any commercial or industrial customer load additions over the next 5 years.

Person Responsible: Kevin Sprague Date: April 21, 2004

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil Docket No: EC 03-3 Department's Fourth Set of Document and Information Requests

Request No. DTE-FGE-4-2

Please refer to the Company's 5-Year Load Forecast 2004-2008. Explain why Fitchburg projects no load growth in the next five years on circuit 40W39?

Response:

Please refer to D.T.E. 01-67 Annual Report, 2003 Attachment 2, page 5 of 33, section 4, paragraph 2 for a description of Unitil's distribution circuit load forecasting.

The document states:

"For those instances where the linear regression evaluation demonstrated a decreasing trend, the historical loads were more closely analyzed. In most cases, the load for that particular circuit or feeder was determined to remain the same or to increase using the linear growth evaluation."

The linear regression evaluation for this circuit demonstrated a decreasing trend of approximately 5.4% over the past 5 years, so a conservative approach was taken assuming no load growth over the next 5 years.

Person Responsible: Kevin Sprague Date: April 21, 2004